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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): NKT A/S [DK/DK]; NKT Allé 1, DK-2605 Brøndby (DK).

(72) Inventors; and
(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): RASMUSSEN, Erik [DK/DK]; Brogårdsvej 15, DK-2820 Gentofte (DK). MARCUSSEN, Erik [DK/DK]; Kjeldgårdsvej 37 A, DK-2500 Valby (DK). JØRGENSEN, Michael, Thorbye [DK/DK]; Langegade 45, DK-5000 Odense C (DK).

(74) Agent: HOFMAN-BANG & BOUTARD A/S; Adelgade 15, DK-1304 Copenhagen K (DK).

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## (57) Abstract

The phosphate content in water, in particular waste water, is lowered corresponding to a purification degree (removal of phosphate) of 90-99 % by treating the water after aeration with a solution of an iron(II) compound which through a volume is the particles. Use is preferably made of an aqueous solution of iron(II) sulphate or iron(II) chloride and particles of quartz sand having a diameter of 0.1-1.0 mm. The removal of phosphate may be effected without adjusting the hardness, pH-value or bicarbonate content of the water. No gel formation takes place and no chemical sludge is produced and the crystallized phosphate can be reused. Hereby - besides a most satisfactory purification - a significantly improved economy as compared with the known methods is obtained.